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DEPARTMENT OF STATE

Memorandum of Conversation

Approved in M: 10/12/67

DATE: October 2, 1967
Time: 4:30 p.m.
Place: Mr. Rostow's Office

SUBJECT: Events in Greece (Part 4 of 4)

PARTICIPANTS: Foreign
Bogdan Crnobrnja, Ambassador of Yugoslavia
United States
Eugene V. Rostow, Under Secretary for Political Affairs
Robert T. Grey, Jr., M - Staff Assistant
Orme Wilson, Jr., EUR/EE - Yugoslav Affairs

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Before departing, Ambassador Crnobrnja raised the subject of the coup d'etat in Greece. He deplored the Greek military regime and its policies of political arrests and censorship. He continued that there is strong belief in Yugoslavia that the Greek regime enjoys the support of "certain circles" in the US. Ambassador Crnobrnja also made reference to recent NATO maneuvers in northern Greece.

Mr. Rostow answered that the US too has been deeply disturbed by the Greek coup d'etat. He stressed that the US was doing all possible to encourage a return to constitutional government in Greece. Furthermore, Mr. Rostow emphasized that recent NATO maneuvers in northern Greece had nothing to do with support for the Greek regime. He said that these maneuvers had been planned long before the Greek military regime seized power. Mr. Rostow added that cancellation of the maneuvers would have been unthinkable at a time when units of the Soviet fleet were manifesting Soviet power in areas of the eastern Mediterranean.

Ambassador Crnobrnja appeared to understand this latter consideration.

Ambassador Crnobrnja next commented that former Prime Minister Canellopoulos had recently appealed publicly in Greece for a return

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to constitutional government. Ambassador Crnobrnja said he knew Mr. Canellopoulos, whom he described as "a man of integrity, although a rightist".

Mr. Rostow concluded by reemphasizing US concern regarding events in Greece and by stressing that the US has used its every influence to moderate the effects of the coup d'etat. [redacted]

Cordial good-bys were exchanged as Ambassador Crnobrnja took his leave.

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